

Teacher's Guide to **Little Red Dot Bounces Back**

Little Red Dot Bounces Back is written for Primary 1 and 2 students with the aim of introducing them to concepts such as the importance of tolerance, sensitivity and unity in the midst of crisis. Related sub-themes in the story include the need to appreciate the differences in one another and how diversity can be a strength. These themes will help students in their daily interactions with fellow students from different ethnic and religious backgrounds.

The underlying message in the story is that physical differences among us should not be divisive. Instead, if we can understand and appreciate one another, we can tap the different talents and abilities to achieve a common purpose. Diversity, when seen in this light, can be a strength.

Little Red Dot Bounces Back conveys this message by showing that the tiny red dots, no matter what their physical differences, need one another for their survival. When the tiny red dots were not united with some of them going their own way, the little red dot's energy and colour were affected. Eventually, by realising the need to work together, the tiny red dots make use of their different talents and abilities to get rid of the red sky. The red sky and dust represent external forces or events which may affect our perceptions of one another overnight, e.g., the threat of terrorism and SARS. The tiny red dots refer to us living in a community which is made up of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The continued survival and progress of the community depends on the tiny red dots living in harmony and working together.

The story and post-reading activities, which are not meant to be prescriptive, may be conducted in the classroom. Although there are nine proposed activities, teachers can pick and choose how many to conduct depending on the time available. Teachers are encouraged to use alternative ways to explain the concepts of tolerance, unity in diversity and teamwork.

